

PROVIDING FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 84, THE BALANCED BUDGET AGREEMENT OF 1997

MAY 19, 1997.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. SOLOMON, from the Committee on Rules,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. Res. 152]

The Committee on Rules, having had under consideration House Resolution 152, by a nonrecord vote, report the same to the House with the recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS OF RESOLUTION

The resolution provides for the consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 84, the “Balanced Budget Agreement of 1997” under a modified closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against the resolution and against its consideration. The rule provides five hours of general debate (including one hour on the subject of economic goals and policies) divided equally between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Budget and 20 minutes controlled by Representative Minge of Minnesota or his designee.

The rule further provides for consideration of those 5 amendments in the nature of a substitute designated in section 2 of the resolution, if printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose, which may be offered only in the order designated, may be offered only by a Member designated, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for twenty minutes (except as specified in the rule) equally divided and controlled by a proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to amendment.

All points of order against the amendments designated in section 2 of the resolution are waived. The adoption of an amendment in the nature of a substitute shall constitute the conclusion of consideration of the concurrent resolution for amendment.

The rule allows the Chairman of the Committee of the whole to postpone votes during consideration of the bill, and to reduce the vote to five minutes on a postponed question if the vote follows a fifteen minute vote. The rule further provides that the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the concurrent resolution and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except amendments offered by the chairman of the Committee on the Budget to achieve mathematical consistency. The rule also provides that the concurrent resolution will not be subject to a demand for a division of the question of its adoption.

Finally the rule provides that rule XLIX (establishment of statutory limit on the public debt) shall not apply with respect to the adoption by the Congress of a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1998.

